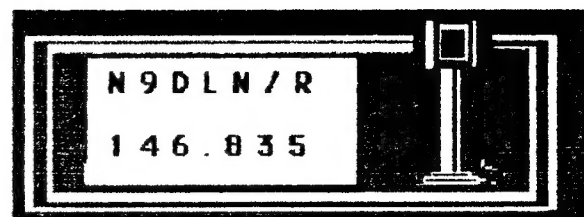


THE SPARK GAP

MIDSTATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
N9DON, PRES. K9PDI, V. PRES. WB9AYB, SEC/TR.
JULY 1991



RESULTS OF VEC TESTING IN FRANKLIN JUNE 15

James Anderson N9KVX	Columbus	General
Robert Bayer	Bloomington	NC Tech
Barb Coboon KB9GWV	Franklin	Tech
Dale Elmore N9IFO	Indianapolis	General
Clarence Gates	Columbus	NC Tech
David Harris	Columbus	NC Tech
Michael McKee KB9GRM	Martinsville	Tech
Jack Reynolds KE9ZH	Indianapolis	Extra
Jerome Richmond WB5PRB	Columbus	Extra
William J. Rohr	Indianapolis	NC Tech
Reuben Schuff(age9)	Indianapolis	General
Charles D. Sears	New Whiteland	NC Tech
John Shaw	Indianapolis	NC Tech
Casey Smith KB9GWU	Indianapolis	Tech
Joe Smith KB9GVV	Indianapolis	Tech
William L. Smith KB9GVL	Plainfield	Tech
Gary L. Sweeney	Greenwood	Tech
Larry S. Walters	Needham	NC Tech
Dale White KB9GMS	Brownsburg	Tech

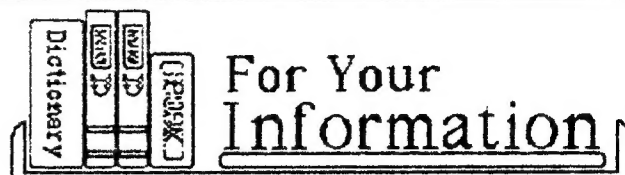
INTERESTING NOTE: Every person passed every test they took! Very unusual!

JULY/AUGUST VEC TESTING

July 6 New Castle	W9JUJ	317-288-0481
July 20 Rushville	N6RS	317-763-6090
July 27 Lebanon	NX9Q	317-482-1866
Aug 3 New Castle	W9JUJ	317-288-0481
Aug 17 Franklin	NV9K	317-736-6320
Aug 31 Indianapolis	NQ9R	317-291-3569

THE SWAP SWAMP

FOR SALE: DRAKE TR4 WB9AYB 738-2908
FOR SALE: 2 COMMODORE COMPUTERS, 2 DISK
DRIVES, PK232, PACKET PROGRAM, PRINTER
NV9K 736-6320



Six TV public service announcements have been made in the interest of Amateur Radio which will be available to all cable television stations for use by the end of July. The six announcements feature the educational values, scientific and emergency communication values, the role of Amateur Radio in Space (featuring astronaut Tony England, W00RE), and a personal endorsement spot by Chet Atkins, WA4CZD. If you have a satellite dish you can downlink these six announcements on July 28th at 2 PM EDST on Weststar 5 channel 4. NV9K will tape them and make them available to the club.

WARC-1992 TO CONSIDER SPECTRUM CHANGES

In a few months the 1992 WARC (World Administrative Radio Conference) will convene in Spain to set up communication procedures and spectrum allocations for international use. Amateur radio is concerned that there could be some curtailment of present frequency privileges. New uses of the radio spectrum are seeking access: CD quality sound broadcasting, new services such as cellular telephones and their data counterparts, mobile satellites, wind profiler radars, and new space services are but a few. Shortwave radio is seeking to expand.

A number of administrations, including

(WARC cont.)

the U.S., are indicating that they intend to protect the amateur spectrum at WARC-92. The FCC Committee has recommended that there be "no intrusion into the amateur bands" and has recommended elimination of the "long standing inconsistency between Regions at 7100-7300 kHz that does not fully satisfy the needs of either the broadcasting or the amateur service." They are calling for a 300 kHz amateur allocation at 6900-7200 kHz with the bottom 100 kHz also available to the land mobile service on a secondary basis (no interference to be caused to amateurs). This transition would not occur for 15 years, allowing time for any necessary modifications of equipment or antennas.

SO YOU THINK YOU HAD IT ROUGH!

Many hams have experienced delays when dealing with the FCC, but our local club member Joe Rogers, KB9GQD, can give you some idea of how frustrating it can get while waiting on your first license to arrive! Joe took his novice test after the club meeting in December from Dave, KA9OOH and Mac, NV9K. After several patient weeks of expecting his license to arrive and asking others who had experience with the typical waiting period, he began to be concerned that something was not right. He got the number of the FCC hot-line and attempted to find out what had happened to his application. He was told to wait a while longer and check back. Weeks went by with no results. So, Joe called the hot-line again. This time the gal he talked to said his application had been approved and a license had been mailed to him in April. She even told him what his call-sign was! After another long period of waiting with

no license, Joe hit the hot-line again. This time they assured him that a license had been mailed in April and that he should submit a new 610 form requesting a duplicate license. Well, Joe did request a duplicate license and it finally arrived! During all this period of time he was studying for his tech license and by this time he was seeing the questions in his dreams! Joe intends to take his tech in Rushville in July. The whole process took 29 weeks!

NEW QUESTIONS FOR NOVICE AND TECH

The June 21st annual meeting of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania concentrated on a few topics. It was decided that new questions for elements 2 and 3A of the Novice and Technician class examinations would not be put in place until July 1, 1993, so as to give the amateur community time to make suggestions on exam content. The group has set a target date of December 1, 1992 to have the new pool questions ready for FCC approval. The VEC's decided to keep this data in a privately run data base and to make it available to the commission and others on a need-to-know basis. The 1991 VEC annual meeting was hosted by FCC personal radio branch chief John B. Johnston, W3BE, with attendance by numerous VEC's, ARRL officials, NARA officials, and industry leaders.

-- from NEWSLINE 725-9

NEW LOCAL INTEREST IN PACKET

Packet radio seems to be gaining popularity with members of our club. Each week it seems that someone new joins the group on 145.030 to check for messages. Although packet is not primarily a conversation medium, several club members are using it that way. Many of us just want to know "what is going on", and packet radio is loaded with information!

FIELD DAY 1991

MARC FIELD DAY RESULTS

Figures for the 1991 field Day:

Total contacts made:	281
Total de-dupped CW contacts:	140
Total de-dupped phone contacts:	121
Total de-dupped contacts:	261

To these totals other bonus points will be added. W9PSD operated with 2 transmitters as 2A Indiana. Most of the contacts were made in 10 states. In the order of number of contacts they were:

OHIO	PENNSYLVANIA	ONTARIO
GEORGIA	MICH	N. CAROLINA
TENNESSEE	VIR.	N. JERSEY
		ILLINOIS

It appears that most contacts were made in a north-south direction. Beams might have helped. Several members had conflicts with the date and there was a shortage of operators. Those who could be there had a good time as usual. Maybe next year we can have a better turnout !

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well folks, it's almost time for elections. If you wish to try your luck as an officer, you will get your chance in September.

Activities have been lacking in man-power this year. There has been a lot of personal activities throughout the club. I believe that work is a major priority and home life is numeral uno. As Mom always said, "Get your work done and you can play".

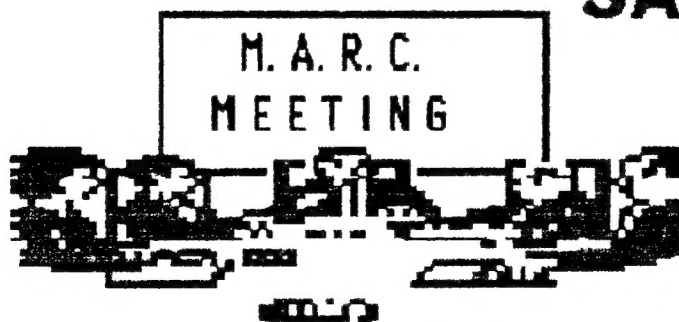
I'm glad to see Ross Marlin back on the air. If anyone has antenna work to do please call an officer. If we can't help we will find someone who can.

We have an Equestrian event coming up saturday, August 24th at the Johnson Co. Horse Park. Please contact me if you can participate. "You too, Dick."

See you at the meeting. 73 de N9DON

WE NEED WARM BODIES....

AT THE MEETING SATURDAY!



AGENDA:

CONSTITUTION CHANGES
5.11 PROPOSAL

WE NEED YOUR INPUT !
BREAKFAST AT 7 AM
MEETING AT 8 AM